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APPLICATION NO.		FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
10/635,337		08/06/2003	Valerie Niddam-Hildesheim	1662/604078	8108
26646	7590	12/14/2006		EXAMINER	
KENYON & KENYON LLP ONE BROADWAY				WARD, PAUL V	
NEW YOR		10004		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
•	,			1624	
				DATE MAILED: 12/14/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	Office Action Commence	10/635,337	NIDDAM-HILDESHEIM ET AL.				
	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
		PAUL V. WARD	1624				
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communication app or Reply	pears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).							
Status							
1)	Responsive to communication(s) filed on	·					
·		_· action is non-final.					
3)	Since this application is in condition for allowar	` ·	secution as to the merits is				
. ,	closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims							
4) 🖂	Claim(s) <u>1-37</u> is/are pending in the application.						
-	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5)	Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
6)⊠	☑ Claim(s) <u>1-37</u> is/are rejected.						
7)							
8)	Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/o	r election requirement.					
Applicat	on Papers						
9)[9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.						
10)	0) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.						
	Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
	Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).						
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.							
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119							
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of:							
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.							
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No							
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage							
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).							
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.							
Attachmen	t(s)		·				
_	e of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary	(PTO-413)				
	te of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal P					
	mation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) or No(s)/Mail Date	6) Other:	atent Application .				

DETAILED ACTION

1. <u>STATUS</u>: The objections and rejection of claims 1-37 under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 112, set forth in the Office action dated December 28, 2005 have been maintained for the reasons of record for the reasons set forth herein.

Response to Arguments regarding

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102 and § 112

Applicant's arguments filed July 3, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

MPEP 2112 states: "SOMETHING WHICH IS OLD DOES NOT BECOME PATENTABLE UPON THE DISCOVERY OF A NEW PROPERTY."

The claiming of a new use, new function or unknown property, which is inherently present in the prior art does not necessarily make the claim patentable. In re Best, 562 F.2d 1252, 1254, 195 USPQ 430, 433 (CCPA 1977)".

In this case, the "unknown property" is the particular crystalline form. This is unknown because the reference is silent on this property. MPEP further states: "A REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102/103 CAN BE MADE WHEN THE PRIOR ART PRODUCT SEEMS TO BE IDENTICAL EXCEPT THAT THE PRIOR ART IS SILENT AS TO AN INHERENT CHARACTERISTIC.

Where Applicant claims a composition in terms of a function, property or characteristic and the composition of the prior art is the same as that of the claim but the function is not explicitly disclosed by the reference, the Examiner may make a rejection under both 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103, expressed as a 102/103 rejection."

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Again, the "CHARACTERISTIC", which the prior art is silent is the crystalline form.

This is not an ordinary inherency situation where is it is not explicitly stated what the product actually is. Here the reference explicitly teaches exactly what the compound is. The only difference is a characteristic about which the reference happens to be silent. See also Ex parte Anderson, 21 USPQ 2nd 1241 at 1251, discussion of Rejection E. There, the decision states, "There is ample precedent for shifting the burden to an applicant to reproduce a prior art product whose final structure or properties are, at least, in part determined by the precise process used in its manufacture." (See page 1253). The "properties" branch of that statement applies here.

Applicants are reminded that the USPTO has no testing facilities. If Applicants' reasoning were accepted, then any anticipation rejection of an old compound could always be overcome by tacking on some characteristic or property which the reference was silent, regardless of whether the prior art material was any different from the claimed material. For example, if it did not happen to mention the color, one could patent an old compound just by adding "which is green" or "which is not indigo". One could put in a limitation about density (e.g., density is not 1.4"), melting point, refractive index, solubility, and etc., and then simply point to the silence of the reference, as Applicants have done here. Or one could add properties like or "does not explode on tapping" or "in the form of micro-needles".

Thus, the objections and rejection of claims 1-37 under 35 U.S.C. 102 set forth in the Office action dated July 3, 2006 and today has been maintained for the reasons of record for the reasons set forth herein.

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Response to Arguments regarding

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102 and § 112

Applicant's arguments filed July 3, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

1. The claims remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims recite limitations that are not found in the text or body of the claims. References to figures or formulas that are not found outside of the claim set are not permitted, rendering the claims indefinite. Additionally, claims that depend from an indefinite claim are also indefinite if they fail to obviate the reason the claims from which they depend are rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1,2,7,8,10, 11,15,16,19,20,21 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Masumoto et al. (U.S. 5,880,283).

Applicant claims crystalline forms of gatifloxacin characterized by different X-ray powder diffraction patterns having different diffraction angles.

Masumoto discloses gatifloxacin, which share the same formulaic compounds.

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Masumoto does not disclose the specific gatifloxacin characterized by different X-ray powder diffraction patterns having different diffraction angles, however, one skilled in the art would find the differences in the teaching to be negligible.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Masumoto to obtain the salt forms in the instant application. All of the moieties are taught in the art. Obviousness based on similarity of structure and functions entails motivation to make the claimed compound in expectation that compounds similar in structure will have similar properties. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make the claimed compounds in searching for new gatifloxacin forms. See In re Payne, 203 USPQ 245 (CCPA 1979). Since Applicant's claims are prima facie obvious in view of the teachings of Masumoto, Applicant's claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Conclusion

Claims 1-37 are pending. Claims 1-37 are rejected. No claims are allowed.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

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shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PAUL V. WARD whose telephone number is 571-272-2909. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 am to 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O. Wilson can be reached on 571-272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

James O. Wilson

Supervisory Patent Examiner Technology Center 1600